

# COVINGTON & BURLING

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January 29, 2003

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By Hand Delivery

RECEIVED

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

JAN 29 2003

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Re: **Ex** Parte Notice – **MB** Docket No. **02-277** and **MM** Docket  
Nos. **01-235**, **01-317** and **00-244** (2002 Biennial Regulatory  
Review of the Commission's Broadcast Ownership Rules and  
Other Rules) and  
Public Notice DA **01-1264** (NASA Petition for Inquiry)

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On January 28, 2003, representatives of the Network Affiliated Stations Alliance ("NASA") met with members of the Commission and their staff regarding the above-captioned proceedings. Specifically, NASA representatives discussed the contents of its January 2, 2003, comments in MB Docket No. 02-277 regarding the 35% national television ownership cap (filed jointly with the National Association of Broadcasters), including the findings of the economic study and survey of affiliates included in that filing. In addition, NASA representatives discussed the positions set forth in its written submissions in the NASA Petition for Inquiry proceeding (DA 01-1264) regarding the appropriateness of a declaratory ruling on provisions of network contracts that are inconsistent with FCC rules and the Communications Act.

The January 28<sup>th</sup> meetings were with Commissioner Copps and his Legal Advisor Alexis Johns; Commissioner Abernathy and her Legal Advisor Stacy Robinson; Commissioner Martin and his Legal Advisor Catherine Bohigian; and Commissioner Adelstein and his Legal Advisor Sarah Whitesell. The NASA representatives who attended all of these meetings were NASA counsel Jonathan Blake and Jennifer Johnson of Covington & Burling and the following members of the NASA Steenng Committee: Alan Frank, Chair of the NASA Steenng Committee and President of Post-Newsweek Stations, Inc.; David Barrett, President of Hearst-Argyle Television, Inc. and past Chair of the ABC Affiliates Association; and John Tupper, President of Prime Cities Broadcasting Inc. and Chair of the Fox Affiliates Association. Sandy Wilson, Vice President-Policy Counsel at

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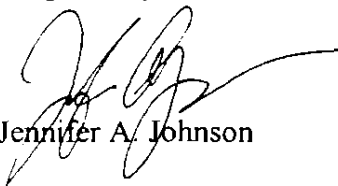
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Cox Enterprises, Inc, also attended the meetings with Commissioner Abernathy, Commissioner Martin and Commissioner Adelstein.

Pursuant to Section 1.1206(b) of the Commission's Rules, an original and 10 copies of this letter (two copies for each docket number) are being submitted to the Secretary's office, with copies to those at the FCC that attended the meetings. Copies of this letter also have been provided to Mania Baghdadi, Linda Senecal, and Qualex International, as specified in the Commission's Notice of Proposed Rule Making (MB Docket No. 02-277) and in Public Notice DA-01 1264.

Please direct any questions regarding this notice to the undersigned

Respectfully submitted,



Jennifer A. Johnson

cc: Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy  
Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein  
Commissioner Michael J. Copps  
Commissioner Kevin J. Martin  
Catherine Bohigian  
Alexis Johns  
Stacy Robinson  
Sarah Whitesell  
Mania Baghdadi  
Linda Senecal  
Qualex International